



# Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, May 30

8 pm

St. Paul's Parish House,  
2430 K St., N.W.

**FBA Elections Are Coming!  
Are Coming!  
Are Coming!**

**By-Laws Will Be Discussed**

**Make Sure Your Dues Are Paid!**

## REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTIVITIES

On Wednesday, May 10th, at 7:30 pm, the Executive Board of the Foggy Bottom Association met to discuss business at hand. Nine voting members out of ten were present (Charles, Holscher, Mack, Axtell, Healy, Durham, Bledsoe, Ogden and Palco). The following issues were discussed and/or voted upon:

- 1) By vote of 7 to 2 the Board voted to slate nominees for positions of Officer. Floor Nominations will be called for in May and June; nominees will be printed in the June (election) issue of the Foggy Bottom News.
- 2) By vote of 6 to 3 the Board voted to recommend to the FB Association membership that the Board be expanded from 9 elected (4 officers and 5 Committee) and 1 ex-officio (immediate past FBA President) voting positions to 11 elected and 2 ex-officio slots (immediate past FBA President and FBN editor).
- 3) The FB Board received notice that ANNE LOMAS will step down as editor for FBN effective September, 1978 and that MAUREEN HOLSCHER will become subsequent FBN editor.
- 4) The Board determined unanimously that the duties of the Vice President shall include, in addition to other responsibilities, that of presiding over an FBN editorial review committee.
- 5) By unanimity the Board voted to recommend to the FB membership that annual dues be increased from \$3 to \$5.

Because two of the actions taken by the Executive Board require changes to the FB Association BY-LAWS, the following will be discussed at the May meeting with a view to ratification at the June meeting. The proposed amendments are:

- A) Resolved that the voting composition of the Executive Board be expanded from 9 elected and 1 ex-officio (immediate past FBA President) to 11 elected and 2 ex-officio (Immediate past FBA President plus the FBN Editor) members.
- B) Resolved that annual FBA membership dues be increased from \$3 to \$5.

[Editorial note: it is hoped that there will be a large turn-out at the May meeting to insure ample discussion on the above and other matters.]

The Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission is preparing to respond to a request from the city's Recreation Advisory Board for citizen views on improvements and additions to city-operated recreation facilities. Anyone who has any suggestions regarding new recreation facilities for our neighborhood or improvements to existing facilities is encouraged to send such suggestions to the Foggy Bottom and West End ANC, 2428 K Street, N.W., 20037.

## Cross-Cultural Opportunity for Families

This summer the Pacific American Institute, which sponsors a one-month educational program, is seeking 175 Washington area families interested in hosting visiting European students.

The purpose of the program is to provide the student with an intensive and diverse cultural experience in America. The program, through classroom instruction and local tours, is specifically structured to develop language skills and usage, introduce the sights, history and workings of our nation's capital, and provide volunteer host families in which the students can share cross-cultural lifestyles.

Ranging in age from fourteen to twenty-one, students from Germany, will arrive in a group of 35 on July 13.

The cornerstone of the program is the American host family. There is an immediate need for families interested in sharing their home and participating in such a program. Families are selected with the expectation that students will interact as integral members, sharing family activities, lifestyles and customs.

The Pacific American Institute, a highly respected organization, is widely involved in developing curriculum for teaching English as a second language. Headquartered in San Francisco, the Pacific American Institute has offices in London, Tokyo, Washington, and sponsors a variety of educational programs worldwide.

People interested in being host families can contact the Regional Coordinator, David Kohler, at (703) 281-9652.

(Ed. Note: 12 hours a week of instruction will be provided by the institute.)

## FOGGY BOTTOM FARMER

William S. Lattin



The solution to some insect problems is well known to the organic gardener. The solution relates to the use of Marigolds, Garlic, Painted daisies, and some Chrysanthemum, all of which give off pyrethrum, an insecticide. Intersperse these plants with your insect-prone plants (petunia, for instance) and Voila!, there is no need to spray.

Azalea clearance sales, although a temptation, should be avoided. Our last two winters

'77-'78 winters but show signs of suffering, turn to the basics in giving them special care. First, look to the soil; Azalea will not tolerate a dry soil type (sandy). If yours is such, work moisture-retaining peatmoss into the earth near the fringes of the plant roots (generally below the tip-ends of the plant branches).

Secondly, remember that next year's azalea flower buds are formed in late summer; that's when they must have adequate



have proven that only the very hardiest varieties can be grown here with assurance of survival; they are not likely to be found at a plant sale. Instead, plan now for next year. Also, buy not from a garden store but from a reputable nurseryman; ask him which of the evergreen varieties and which of the deciduous varieties of Azalea in his nursery have come through the winters without damage.

If your azaleas survived the

soil moisture for proper bud development. Also, don't let your plants go into the winter dry. Water well before final freeze-up and add to the pine needle mulch. The pine needle mulch does double duty—root protection and acidity retention. Believe it; the quality of your next spring's azalea bloom can be influenced by what you do now, or fail to do now. Who would say that they're not worth the effort.

## ANC NEWS

### CANDIDATES FORUM for SMD 6

**James Molinelli  
Jeffrey Lewis  
TUESDAY, JUNE 6  
Red Cross Building  
7:30 PM**



Pam Palco



seen

around

## the Bottom



SPRING—this Spring in Washington was the most lovely I have seen in a great many years. My thanks to everyone who contributed—the National Park Service, the City, residents who care, and above all—to Mother Nature and God.

WASHINGTON—Spring, Fall, Summer or Winter—has to be one of the loveliest cities in the world. I drove "all over town" one Sunday in early May, just drinking in the life of our city, the good parts and the bad.

Some parts of the city are so magnificent and beautiful that you can't help but swell up with pride because you live here; others are so awful that you want to bang your head against the wall in frustration at the City Government for letting such conditions exist.

Good things in our city do not come easy. It takes a lot of effort on the part of many people to make the good things happen. The bad things, well, in my opinion, they come about because a lot of us sit back and do absolutely nothing to get them changed. The voice of the people is still the strongest weapon any government has. We haven't been speaking out much for the past eight years—we have had our chance.

If we had been active we wouldn't have slum areas, poor housing, and streets so dirty in some parts of the city that you can't see the curbs. I wonder if we in Foggy Bottom know how lucky we are by comparison to some areas of the city. Guess I shouldn't say "lucky"; good maintenance doesn't come about by luck—somebody has to be working at it. Officials of your FBA are the "somebodies"; they are persistent, tenacious and sometimes downright pushy but they get the job done for us. They are learning how to use the ANC reps to push a little harder, and that helps too.

Hopefully, come September there will be some changes in our City Government which will result in a better managed city; one in which we all won't have to push so hard to get the services our tax dollars are collected for. To bring about that change, all of us will have to do our job—go to the polls and vote. Vote for the candidate who will bring about better city government by setting the example and providing guidance and strength from the Mayor's office. Start getting informed now about the

candidates and their programs, plus their ability to act and lead, rather than just talk.

Maybe after September your FBA won't have to work so hard to keep this area (the entire area, not just the show place parts) in tip-top shape. (I've just about got my mind made up on my choice for Mayor—a little more research and I'll be ready.)

EYE STREET—Take a walk some time and really look at both sides of Eye Street between 24th and 25th. I do think that it is one of the loveliest blocks in the Bottom. Residents of that block are to be complimented on the TLC they give their homes and gardens.

ALICE PLAISTED—our long time faithful photographer has been missing from our active scene for awhile and we miss her. Alice says she put herself out to pasture for awhile but she will be back soon. Hurry up, Alice.

GWU LISNER NOON SERIES—Tuesday, May 23 Renaissance Lute Music with Linn Barnes and Allison Hampton; Tuesday, May 30 The Pekin High School Concert Choir from Pekin, Illinois (75 voice choir). These concerts are free and all residents of the Bottom are invited. Programs run approximately 30 minutes. Lisner Auditorium: 21st & H.

ST. MARY'S RUMMAGE SALE—The Sr. Citizen's Fellowship Club is having a

rummage sale June 7 from 10 to 3 at St. Mary's—728 23rd St. (enter through the garden). Nice bargains in clothes, kitchen ware, ornaments, etc. are promised. Donations of items to sell will be gratefully accepted. Call Mattie Shippen #667-6976 for further info.

THE PLAZA—our compliments to The Plaza for trying to beautify the corner lot adjacent to their property at 25th and H. The City owns that big stretch of land next to the Plaza but, as usual, does nothing to keep it neat, clean and landscaped. The Plaza's civic interest, as well as protective interest, is appreciated. The Potomac Plaza has been doing the same thing for about 15 years; we all admire and appreciate how well the PP maintains their grounds.

TOUGH FOGGY BOTTOM—How many of you read the May 6 Post article on Foggy Bottom—West End? Well, don't believe everything you read. I, too am a native Washingtonian and while I was born and raised in Southwest at the foot of the Capitol, I had relatives and friends all over town—many in Foggy Bottom. FB was not that tough! No more so than any other section of the in-town city—this city or any other large city.

FB was peopled mainly by the middle income working level and working poor people. Notice that I said "working

people". By and large the residents of the Bottom worked at the Gas House, the several breweries, the markets, the dairy, in shops of all kinds, in stables and garages and restaurants, in city government, in radio stations and department stores, insurance agencies and in service work. And, the area had its share of rich people—who do you think lived in those large 3 and 4 story elegant Victorian houses—certainly not the poor or the toughs of the area. Sure the area had bad spots—places where gangs hung out and got drunk; places where you could "buy a bottle" anytime you wanted to, or place a bet on anything anytime. Places where 8 or 10 lived in one house—black and white alike; that is the way they kept alive—no different than today. Hardly any section of the inner city was any different during those days.

I don't mind the article pointing out the bad parts of the Bottom; I just think that it would

have been more fair if it had mixed some of the good and very good in with the bad—like naming some of the fine people who lived in this area who gave many people excellent service and much pleasure—like the butchers at the K Street Market and the bakers at the same market, like Arthur Godfrey who lived at 25th and K; like ....and....and....

HOWARD JOHNSON's—Guess I was wrong; we must all really like that blazing orange roof on the HJ's drive in entrance! Only two residents (husband and wife) wrote in to say that they fully supported our efforts to get that harsh blot on our view eliminated. Do you really not mind it or was it too much trouble to drop me a note? It is like the idea to name the circle at NH and Va. Avenues—only a few residents evidenced any interest at all in what it was called. So, we scrubbed our efforts; it takes a lot of effort to

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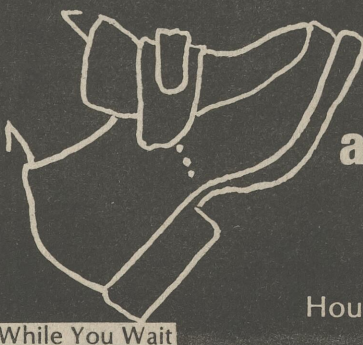
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## Foggy Bottom News

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial and other assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

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FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS  
c/o West End Library  
24th and L Sts., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Next Edition's Deadline Wednesday June 1

The opinions expressed in this publications are those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

## 1976-77 OFFICERS

President ..... Robert H. Charles, Jr. 333-1011  
Vice President ..... Dirck Holscher  
Secretary ..... Pam Mack  
Treasurer ..... Janet Axtell

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eleanor Becker  
Mary Healy  
Ken Durham  
Melvin Ogden  
Marthlu Bledsoe  
Richard Palco



get a circle formally named in Washington.

HJ's, that's something different; we think that we will still make that effort but it would help if we had some visible support.

**GLADYS GILLIAM**—How many of your remember when Gladys planted those tiny crabapple trees in the yard of her rehabilitated residence and beauty parlor at 25th and Eye? That was only about 8 years ago and look at them now; they stand about 25' tall! Gladys would have been so pleased. The new owners of Gladys's home must be very pleased; they too have taken a great deal of interest in keeping their own and part of the city's property well landscaped.

**FORMAL GARDEN**—Natalie Beaulieu has the loveliest formal garden I have seen in the Bottom. It is worth the walk to 830 25th St. (SW corner) to see how pretty a small plot of land can be when it is planned and cared for.

**TULIPS**—Ours at the Juarex Circle (see I've named it) were absolutely beautiful this year—so much so that a young woman

was seen one afternoon picking (very unhurriedly and most selectively) a whole dozen; admiring her choices and then calmly walking down H St. The nerve of some people's children!

**BERNICE ABBOTT**—remember Bernice, Dr. Harris' Assistant (lived in Apt. 908 in the Potomac Plaza for years)? Bernice moved back to Syracuse about 7 years ago. Recently she came back for a visit with Milita Rodeck. I bet that corner at 25th and H (with Melita, her mother, and the Harrises) did a lot of remembering during her visit.

**GWU PURCHASE**—GW, per the Post, recently purchased the Apartment Building at 2109 F St.

**CURBS**—Safe at last—have

you seen the new curbs which were put at 23rd and 24th at Eye Streets so that pedestrians can safely walk across the street—and so that cars can't illegally park there any more? Now if the City will just settle the Eye Street thing we could get cleaned up in that end of town for awhile—that is until GW starts building on the Metro side of the street.

**TULIPS AGAIN**—A pleasant ending to this month's column—The Foggy Bottom Association has donated 200 tulip bulbs to the St. Mary's Senior Citizen Home now being built on 24th street. They will be a lovely "Welcome to Foggy Bottom" come next spring when residents start moving in. Thank you FBA. See you next month.

Mary Healy



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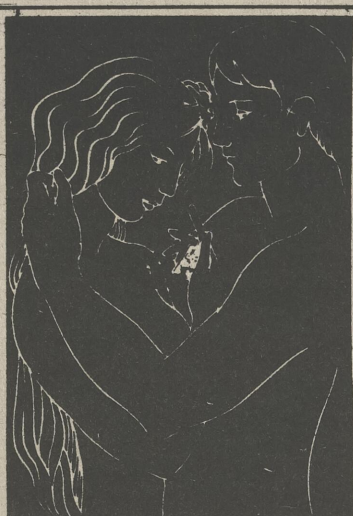
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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

from  
Foggy Bottom News



This is New Years Eve and here I sit.  
The AAUW building next door, I see  
Is dark, this being Saturday, but  
It will be dark on Monday too, for  
New Years comes on Sunday this year.  
The streets are quiet; the wet's from  
Last night's insubstantial snow.  
There's very little vehicular traffic;  
Hardly a pedestrian stirring either.  
Sky's overcast—a low, grey ceiling.  
Not too good for those enormous jets  
Landing Washington National Airport.  
Due south sprawls forthlike Pentagon.  
I often confuse it with other polygons,  
Hexagons, hexameters, pentameters, etc.  
Then Kennedy Center's marble facade,  
Our Taj Mahal, denied the Federal Mall  
By whimsical naves of a myopic Congress.  
It tries to bring us some sophistication;  
Bits of culture mixed with avante garde;  
Its face roughed by a big fiscal deficit.  
I can't see Georgetown University's  
Jesuit spires from where I sit. I wonder  
Who'll inscribe them in metrical splendor  
As Wini Letts did *The Spires of Oxford*.

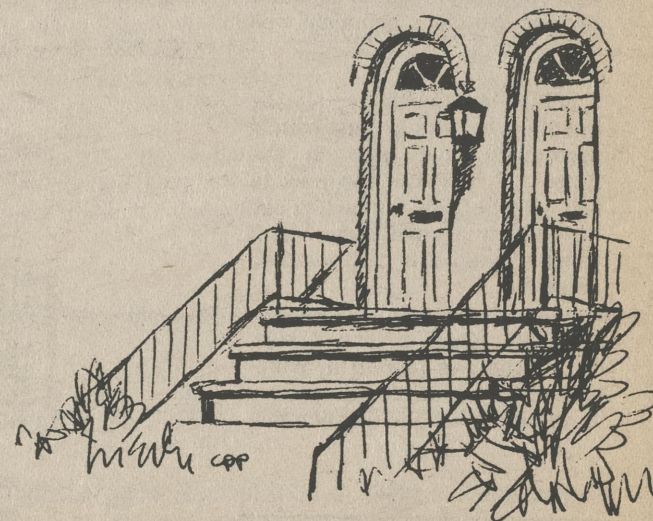
This New Years resolution I've made:  
To leave a blank spot for the site  
Across the street—a symbol of shame;  
Debate of a political administration;  
Downfall of its rey and its vice rey.

From our living room—this high up view,  
Corner of New Hampshire & Virginia Avenue,  
Hard by the Potomac, Washington, D.C.  
20037

Irby F. Wood

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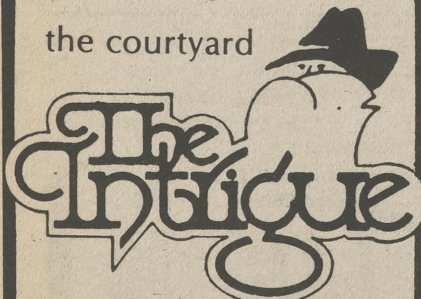


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